

SIZE - SUBSTANCE - SIGNIFICANCE

WELCOME TO CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH



– MARCH –

 ChristCommunityChurch



A Loving Church

Wouldn't it be amazing if our Church was famous for our love?

Love is the priority. Paul said love is 'the most excellent way' (1 Cor 12:31) and 'the greatest' (v13). Peter said, 'Above all else, love one another' (1 Peter 4:8). John's most frequent command was 'love one another' (1 John 4:7). Jesus said the greatest commandment was loving God and loving our neighbour (Mark 12:30-31).

There are often misunderstandings about love so it's important to ground ourselves in the biblical definition. Some people think mainly in sentimental and romantic terms and a common myth is that love would 'never make anyone unhappy'. But Jesus was perfect love, and he once looked at a rich young ruler 'and loved him' yet after their conversation that man 'went away sad' (Matt 19:16-22). Perfect love doesn't bend truth to make people happy. It 'rejoices with the truth'.

That last statement is one phrase from Paul's four-sentence definition of love, a stunning passage often read at weddings – 1 Cor 13:4-7.

The passage contains three big ideas:

1. Love is 'rejoicing with' instead of 'comparing against'.

Paul contrasts love with envy, boasting, pride, self-seeking, and dishonouring others. Love is the opposite of comparison.

Romans 12:15, another passage about love, states it more positively: 'Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.'

Love is being happy for others, rejoicing in their giftedness and success. Love is also being sad with others – sharing in their suffering and grieving with them.

Love is rejoicing with instead of comparing against.

2. Love is seeing the best in others.

Paul says love 'keeps no record of wrongs' and that it 'rejoices with the truth'. Love is focused on what is good and true. He also says love 'always protects, always trusts and always hopes'. Because God doesn't need protecting, we know he's talking here about how we treat others. He's encouraging us to refuse cynicism and believe the best of others.

Imagine two pairs of glasses –

- One highlights and magnifies people's failures and character flaws,
- One highlights and magnifies the good things people do, where they get it right.

Love is like taking off the first pair and wearing the second pair of glasses. Love sees and draws attention to what someone is getting right.

So the irony is, it's not very loving to complain that other people aren't very loving. Love keeps no record of wrongs and rejoices with the truth.

3. Love is swapping 'I am first' for 'I am second.'

Central to the biblical definition of love is this idea of self-giving – putting God and others first. Paul says simply 'love is not self-seeking'.

What is the opposite of being self-seeking? 1 John 3:16 presents this idea more positively 'This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.'

Love is laying down your own life and putting God and the lives of others first.

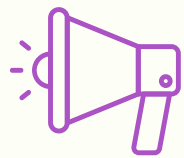
The Bible is not saying your life is not precious, but that your precious and valuable life should be laid down for others because they are precious too.

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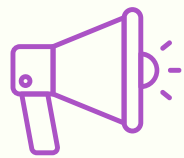
Loving is costly. Even this amazing passage about love was written to a Church who ended up treating Paul really badly.

C.S. Lewis

To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact you must give it to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. To love is to be vulnerable.



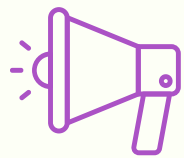
EVENTS AND NEWS



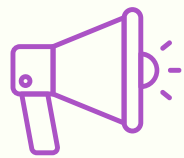
THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

- 4th March> Ladies prayer, 9–10:15am at the Lighthouse
- 4th March> Relational Mission Listening Ear Day Conference, 9am in Norwich
- 6th March> Treasures Coffee Morning, 10am–12pm at the Lighthouse
- 7th March> Worship night, 7:30–9pm at the Lighthouse
- 12th March> Community group lunch (Youth and Young Adults)
- 18th March> Men's breakfast, 8:30am at the Lighthouse
- 19th March> Mother's Day
- 19th March> Boiler room prayer, 7:30–8:30pm at the Lighthouse Centre
- 20th March> Treasures Coffee Morning, 10am–12pm at the Lighthouse
- 25th March> Workday, 9am–3pm at the Lighthouse Centre





EVENTS AND NEWS



NEXT MONTH - APRIL

- 1st April> Ladies prayer
- 3rd April> Treasures Coffee Morning
- 7th April> Good Friday - gift giveaway outreach in Queen's Square
- 9th April> Easter Sunday - Celebration service with baptisms followed by hog roast
- 10th April> Easter Monday - Car boot sale & site tour
- 16th April> Boiler Room prayer
- 18th April> Worship night
- 22nd April> Men's walk and pub lunch
- 29th April> Workday

EASTER



NEWS AND EVENTS

ANNUAL LADIES' SOUP FESTIVAL

On Saturday 25th February, over 80 ladies, most of them guests from the community, gathered to try out some different flavoured soups and rolls, followed by delicious sweet treats and hot drinks.

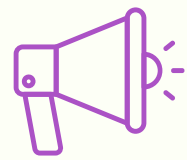
We had a fun quiz hosted by our quizmaster extraordinaire Mr Carter, and guests took home recipe books to recreate the soups to impress their friends and family.

If you were unable to attend the event and would like a copy of the recipe booklet, you might still be able to grab a spare if you're quick.

Please check the information table at the back of the hall on Sunday or contact sharon@christcommunitychurch.co.uk



NEWS AND EVENTS



MARRIAGE COURSE

Our marriage course has started with 13 couples enjoying a meal at individual tables and watching a video leading to helpful discussion privately as couples.

Those on the course are a mix of church family and guests from the community and so is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends at the beginning and end of the evening.

If you would like to sign up to our next course starting in June then you can do this via the church website: christcommunitychurch.co.uk.

A poster for a Marriage Course. It features a dark background with string lights at the top and bottom. The text is white and yellow. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a man and a woman holding hands, looking at each other.

MARRIAGE COURSE

STARTING WEDS 14TH JUNE
7.30PM @ THE LIGHTHOUSE
131 HARGHAM RD ATTLEBOROUGH
NR17 2JP

THIS 7 WEEK COURSE IS DESIGNED FOR
EVERY COUPLE OF ANY OR NO FAITH
TO INVEST IN YOUR MARRIAGE
WHETHER YOU'VE BEEN TOGETHER A MONTH OR 60 YEARS.

ENJOY A WEEKLY DATE NIGHT OVER A
MEAL AND DRINK

FREE - NO GROUP WORK - SAFE AND FRIENDLY CAFE
ENVIRONMENT

TO BOOK VISIT CHRISTCOMMUNITYCHURCH.CO.UK
OR CALL 01953 452865

FOODBANK

Please help local people in crisis by buying items from the list below and giving them to the food bank's collection point.

- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Meat
- Tinned Vegetables
- Sponge/Rice Puddings
- Biscuits
- UHT Milk
- Tea/Coffee
- Long Life Juice

Thank you!



NEWS AND EVENTS

GIFT DAYS - 26TH FEBRUARY AND 5TH MARCH

We continue to believe God for abundant provision as we step forward as a Church.

God has been amazingly good to us. We have raised and spent £514,000 on our Church building project to date.

What are we giving towards over these two dates?

There are three parts - maintaining the ground we've taken, taking more ground, and being generous.

1. Maintaining the ground we've taken - we've taken some big faith steps in the past year. We've increased our staff team - Andy Severn and Elia Stroudinsky have joined the CCC staff team strengthening our children's work, fundraising and administration. We've also bought this amazing site - which incurs significant regular costs. So we want to raise funds to help us maintain the ground we've taken.

2. We also want to take more ground - we want to take some big steps forward with our building project. You can see the detail of our plans on the wall at the side of our church hall. We want to raise £252,500. This would enable us to complete some compliance aspects of the site in respect of safety - things like entrance resurfacing, electrical works, roof repairs, CCTV for security etc. But it would also enable us to further develop Units 2 and 3 - so we have room to grow, host large events, and move activities over from the Lighthouse. We also want to replace the flat roof at the front of the building and install solar panels so that we can reduce our energy bills and be ready to develop the Youth Centre.

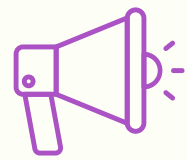
Initially we thought we would do the bare minimum at this part of the building, in a temporary way and concentrate more quickly on the front of the building, but a few things have been provoking us:

- We've been encouraged prophetically that we need more facilities than we originally planned. Here's one word we were given by someone outside of our church: 'Prepare for at least twice as much as you planned for. You need to reconsider what you have been planning for. I think it's got to be at least double. Ministry-wise at least double. Facilities-wise at least double what you've been planning for. And that will, like lifting the sword, seem almost impossible: 'How could we possibly do that?' God says, 'You believe it, I'll deliver it'.
- With Benny stepping in to lead our social action work, we also anticipate needing more space for our projects. We don't know exactly how, but we can sense a surge of growth coming here.

So we don't expect what we develop at this end of the building to be temporary, even though we don't fully know what it will be used for once the front of the building is developed.

3. Be generous - we want to support the church plant being started in the Netherlands who have gathered an amazing team and have a huge vision to plant churches in the nation. You can find out more about them here: <https://www.plantnijmegen.com/>

NEWS AND EVENTS



How can I give?

Giving out of what we have

We recognise that your personal circumstances will affect how you are able to give. If this is a difficult time for you financially, please don't feel under any obligation. We believe you should only give out of what you have. Feel free to ask for prayer on a Sunday or in your Community Group, or talk to a leader if you are struggling financially or in debt. We have great links with Christians Against Poverty who may be able to help you. We are extremely grateful for the ongoing, generous giving from so many who call Christ Community Church their home.

1. Make a one-off gift

2. Take a step up in your regular giving*

Here's what a step up in your regular giving could look like:

1. Step in and make a start – set up a regular standing order.
2. Take a further step – regularly give 10%
3. Step into giving over and above! Give 10% and then give more in proportion to your income.

If you take a step up in your regular giving, complete a pledge form about your increased giving – this greatly helps us raise funds.

Giving details:

Christ Community Church Attleborough

Sort code: 30-96-17

Account number: 57190268

MEN'S EVENTS

18th March

Breakfast, 8:30am at the Lighthouse

22nd April

Walk and pub lunch

20th May

Breakfast

17th June

An evening with...

£5



NEWS AND EVENTS

LADIES' PRAYER

Prophetic encouragement for ladies' prayer – By praying together in unity, we link together with the calling of God and what He is wanting to outwork through our church. Our prayers anchor the church and provide stability and vision. They are an encouragement to the body to 'go again' and to keep going. Our faithful and consistent prayer pleases the Lord; there is a grace on us for God to do mighty things through our prayers.

Once a month, 9-10:15am **at the Lighthouse**

Next dates: **4th March**, 1st April (at the Lighthouse Centre), 6th May, 3rd June,
8th July (at the Lighthouse Centre)



RELATIONAL MISSION – LISTENING EAR CONFERENCE

Saturday 4th March 2023, from 9am

Venue: City Church Cambridge

'The Listening Ear' day conference focusses on equipping every believer to hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Who is this all for? Whether you are a new believer just starting out in your faith or are a mature church leader – this is for you.

For more details and to book in, follow this link: <https://acc.churchsuite.com/events/ikldecoc>



NEWS AND EVENTS

BOILER ROOM – MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

7:30–8:30pm at the Lighthouse Centre (Children's Church room). Next meeting: **Sunday 19th March.**

Charles Spurgeon, the 19th-century English preacher, was known as the “Prince of Preachers.” It is not an exaggeration to say that thousands came to Christ through his preaching. A group of young ministers came one day to visit his church. After showing them the massive sanctuary, Spurgeon offered to show them his “boiler room.” The guests were not interested because boiler rooms were not pleasant places to visit. They were hot and dirty; usually located down in the basement. In Spurgeon’s time, steam was the power source of the day; boiler rooms were the powerhouses, the driving forces of everything. Spurgeon led the young ministers down to the basement where they found about one hundred people in prayer. “This,” Spurgeon said with a smile, “is my boiler room.” Whenever Spurgeon was asked the secret of his ministry he always replied, “My people pray for me.”

Inspired by this story, we are holding monthly prayer meetings at the new site on Sunday evenings. It’s an opportunity to put into practice what we’ll have been learning in the Prayers of Many course.

Other dates: 16th April, 14th May, 18th June, 9th July

WORSHIP NIGHT

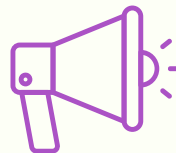
7.30-9pm Tuesday 7th March

Join us for a night of worship, worship and a bit more worship! We will sing, pray, and listen to God's voice together.

Venue: The Lighthouse Centre

Other dates: 18th April, 9th May, 6th June, 4th July

NEWS AND EVENTS



PRAYER ROOM

We have set aside a place for prayer at the new site. It's the little room on your left as you come into the main hall from outside. There's a heater! The walls are covered with paper and we want to invite people to come throughout the week and cover the walls in bold prayers and crazy dreams. You can book your slot for that week on a sheet over the door, which will be refreshed every Sunday service.

THE NEW TESTAMENT IN A YEAR

Every weekday, we email out a short devotional to compliment a chapter of God's word. All of these are written inhouse and provide a brilliant way for our Church family to collectively embrace God's word. To sign up, email admin@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

SERVICES

- MARCH -



IN MARCH OUR SERVICES WILL BE 10:30AM AT THE LIGHTHOUSE CENTRE!

5TH MARCH	BENNY MARRETT	JAMES 1.19-27
12TH MARCH	JEFF WARIN	STAND-ALONE
19TH MARCH	JANE WALTERS AND OTHERS	MOTHER'S DAY
26TH MARCH	ROB TERVET	PARABLES - THE FUTURE

ADULT COMMUNITY GROUPS

We gather in the week in small groups to pray, worship, grow and reach out together. Details for these may vary, so do confirm with the leaders before attending. For more information, contact the leader directly if you have a directory, or contact the office. Church office contact details: 01953 452865 admin@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Attleborough Group – Tuesdays

Leaders: Jason and Laura Offer, Ali Sayer, Diane Melia

Time: 7:45pm

Fun Fact: Jason used to be a glider pilot.

Online Group – Tuesdays

Leaders: Rob and Marjory Miller

Time: 7.45pm

Fun Fact: Marjory is related to Ewan McGregor

Online Group – Wednesdays (linked to Bill and Nannette's group)

Leaders: Gerry and Liz Keogh

Time: 10am

**Fun facts: Liz once worked in a poodle parlour.
Gerry once fried chicken for Colonel Sanders and was a bodyguard for Roy Castle.**

Lighthouse Group – Wednesdays

Leaders: Bill and Nannette Loades

Time: 10am

Fun Fact: They both became Christians in 1967 though the witness of Nannette's brother, a friend and the ministry of Martin Lloyd Jones

Attleborough Group – Wednesdays

Leaders: Sam and Debs Page, Greg and Esther Forbes

Time: 7:45pm

Fun fact: Sam proposed to Debs with a tortoise

East Harling Community Group – Thursdays

Leaders: Sara and Chris Govey

Time: 7:45pm

Fun Fact: Sara and Chris both lived in London for an extensive time yet first dated when working in Denmark.

Connect new people Group – Weekly

Leaders: Peter and Sharon Fitzgerald

Time: 6:30pm for dinner

Fun Fact: Peter worked on the film set of Tomb Raider

YOUTH

For more information, email
paige@christcommunitychurch.co.uk



YOUTH SPRING TERM

JANUARY

- 8 The Cave: In the beginning
- 10 Youth CG
- 15 The Cave: Exodus
- 17 Youth CG
- 22 The Cave: Homeland
- 24 Youth CG
- 29 The Cave: Kingdom
- 31 Youth CG

FEBRUARY

- 5 The Cave: Survival
- 7 Youth CG
- HALF TERM ---
- 21 Youth CG: Job series
- 26 The Cave: Hope
- 28 Youth CG: Job series

MARCH

- 5 The Cave: Mission
- 7 Youth CG: Job series
- 12 The Cave: Betrayal
- 14 Youth CG: Job series
- 19 The Cave: Passion
- 21 Youth CG: Job series
- 26 The Cave: Courage
- 28 Youth CG: Job series

APRIL

- EASTER HOLS ---
- 11 Social: Junk Crazy Golf @ LHC

BE KIND

Youth CG = Youth Community Group.
7:30-9pm @ The Lighthouse on Hargham Road.

The Cave = Youth Sunday during the service.
10:30am-12 @ The Lighthouse Centre on Halford Road.

ChristCommunityChurch

YOUNG ADULTS



Pancake
social!

For more details about the group please get in touch with either Hilary & David Reger, Rob & Rachel Peck or the office.



On Saturday 11th February we hosted a Valentine's lunch for our Treasures here at The Lighthouse Centre. Our local senior citizens were treated to a delicious hot lunch and fabulous desserts, followed by a quiz, and were given gifts and treats to take home. Lots of them were able to make new friends and were really grateful to be out having fun. If you know anyone who is over 60 and would enjoy coming along to our seasonal events, twice monthly coffee mornings, or are housebound and would benefit from newsletters, friendship calls or doorstep deliveries, then please contact sharon@thelighthouseattleborough.co.uk



Coffee mornings: Come and enjoy a free cup of coffee, hot chocolate or tea and catch up with old friends, make new ones and enjoy an occasional short talk. Open to all senior citizens.

First and third **Mondays** of the month

Next dates: 6th March, 20th March, 3rd April, 17th April, 1st May, 15th May, 5th June, 19th June

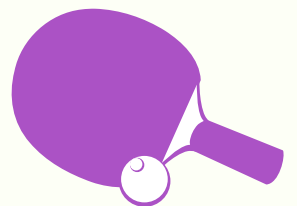
10am-12pm at the Lighthouse

TABLE TENNIS

Attleborough's Ping Table Tennis Club is growing fast with numbers in double figures regularly attending with ages from 13yrs to 76yrs

Come along for a fun, social way of playing table tennis for all abilities. £1 donation.

Mondays, 7-9pm @ the Lighthouse



Parent & toddler group, Fridays 10-11:30am

Contact Sara Govey or the office.





The Ignite Youth Project supports local young people through:

* YR12 VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMME; RAINBOW LETTERS OF HOPE; LIGHTHOUSE CENTRE SKILLS; THE GIRLS LOUNGE; IGNITE YOUTH DRAMA; IGNITE MENTORING; #OUTSIDE FRIDAY DETACHED

IF YOU WANT TO:

FIND OUT MORE

VISIT A SESSION

VOLUNTEER

**HELP CONNECT
A YOUNG
PERSON WITH
IGNITE**

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Speak to us: Office: 01953 452865

Email us:

Debs (Ignite Youth Project Lead):
debs.carter@thelighthouseattleborough.co.uk

Paige (Girls Lounge): paige@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

DM us: @igniteattleborough



Thanksgiving

Opportunities to pray for/with young people while doing #outside Detached Ignite! Progress made in skills learnt and deconstruction of the LHC building earmarked to be the prospective new Youth Venue through the Lighthouse Centre Skills Volunteer Placement (see photos). Timely conversations with key external individuals and organisations who are very supportive of our plans to develop a safe long-term space for young people and have already imparted their wisdom, time and expertise.

Prayer request

We are still seeking to grow the Detached team to ensure we are ready for growth and robust in our support. This is a key time for funding to be secured for the new Youth Venue - God knows how we are to resource it, so please pray for a release of unprecedented funds.



CONTACT DETAILS:

Rob Tervet – Church Leader (off on Saturdays)
rob@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Sharon Fitzgerald – Events & Integration of new people into church (Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs)
sharon@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Paige Marrett – Youth (Tues – Church Youth & Thurs – Girls Lounge)
paige@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Elia Stroudinsky – Administrator (Part-time – works some hours on Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sunday)
admin@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Debs Carter – Ignite Youth Project Lead (Mon, Thu, Fri)
debs.carter@thelighthouseattleborough.co.uk

Pete Felton – Site Project Manager
petefelton@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Benny Marrett – Lighthouse Charity Director (Wed, Thu, Fri)
benny@thelighthouseattleborough.co.uk

Andy Severn – Children's worker & Fundraiser
andy@christcommunitychurch.co.uk

Rob Tervet, James Oyeniyi, Chris Govey and Benny Marrett are our church elders.

Christ Community Church is in partnership with Relational Mission, part of Newfrontiers